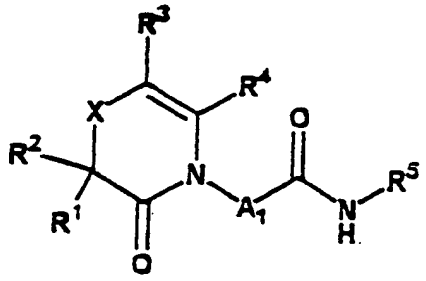
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A compound represented by the following formula [I] or a salt thereof,



[I]

wherein

X is S,

R^1 and R^2, being the same or different, are hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl,

R^3 and R^4, being the same or different, are hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or an aromatic heterocycle,

R^5 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or $-A_3-A_4-R^7$,

~~R^6 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy or an aromatic heterocycle~~**[[,]]**

R^7 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, amino, lower alkylamino, arylamino, an aromatic heterocycle or a nonaromatic heterocycle,

~~n is 0 or 1~~**[[,]]**

A_1 is lower alkylene,

~~A_2 is carbonyl or sulfonyl~~**[[,]]**

A_3 is lower alkylene,

A_4 is carbonyl or oxalyl,

each lower alkyl defined above is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, aryl or aryloxy,

each lower alkoxy defined above is unsubstituted or substituted by aryl, and

each lower alkylene defined above is unsubstituted or substituted by aryl.

Claim 2. (original) The compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^7 is a nonaromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidine, pyrroline, tetrahydrofuran, dihydrofuran, tetrahydrothiophene, dihydrothiophene, imidazolidine, imidazoline, oxazolidine, oxazoline, 4,4-

dimethyloxazoline, thiazolidine, thiazoline, 5,5-dimethylthiazoline, pyrazolidine, pyrazoline, piperidine, tetrahydropiperidine, dihydropiperidine, tetrahydropyran, dihydropyran, pyran, piperazine, morpholine, thiomorpholine, homopiperidine, homopiperazine and homomorpholine; or R^7 is an aromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyrrole, furan, thiophene, imidazole, oxazole, thiazole, pyrazole, isoxazole, isothiazole, pyridine, pyrazine, pyrimidine, indole, isoindole, benzimidazole, benzoxazole, benzothiazole and quinoline.

Claims 3 and 4. (canceled)

Claim 5. (currently amended) The compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim **[[4]]** 1, wherein R^3, R^4**[[**,R^6**]]** or R^7 is an aromatic heterocycle is selected from the group consisting of pyridine and thiophene.

Claim 6. (original) The compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1, wherein R^5 is $-A_3-A_4-R^7$, and A_3 is lower alkylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by phenyl in the formula [I].

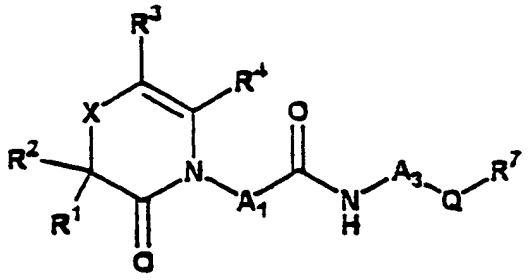
Claim 7. (original) The compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 6, wherein R^7 is lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, an aromatic

heterocycle or a nonaromatic heterocycle in the formula [I].

Claim 8. (original) The compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 7, wherein R^7 is a nonaromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidine, dihydrofuran, oxazolidine, 4,4-dimethyloxazoline, thiazoline, 5,5-dimethylthiazoline, piperidine, piperazine and morpholine; or R^7 is an aromatic heterocycle selected from the group consisting of oxazole, thiazole and benzothiazole.

Claim 9. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1 as an active ingredient in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 10. (currently amended) A compound represented by the following formula [II] or a salt thereof,



[II]

wherein

X is S,

R^1 and R^2, being the same or different, are hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl or aryl,

R^3 and R^4, being the same or different, are hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl or an aromatic heterocycle,

~~R^6 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, cycloalkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy or an aromatic heterocycle~~**[[,]]**

R^7 is hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, amino, lower alkylamino, arylamino, an aromatic heterocycle or a nonaromatic heterocycle,

~~n is 0 or 1~~**[[,]]**

A_1 is lower alkylene,

~~A_2 is carbonyl or sulfonyl~~**[[,]]**

A_3 is lower alkylene,

Q is -CH(OH)CO- or -CH(OH)-,

each lower alkyl defined above is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxy, lower alkoxy, aryl or aryloxy,

each lower alkoxy defined above is unsubstitued or substituted by aryl, and

each lower alkylene defined above is unsubstituted or substituted by aryl.

Claim 11. (currently amended) A method of inhibiting chymase in a patient to treat a disease caused by chymase, said disease is selected from the group consisting of cardiac infarction, heart failure, blood-vessel restenosis after PCTA, hypertension, a diabetes complication, an allergic disease and asthma comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1, alone or in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 12. (original) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the administering to a patient is carried out orally.

Claim 13. (original) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the administering to a patient is carried out parenterally.

Claim 14. (original) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the administering to a patient is carried out by applying eyedrops.

Claim 15. (new) The compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1, wherein

R^1 and R^2 are hydrogen or isopropyl,

R^3 and R^4 are hydrogen or phenyl,

R^5 is $-A_3-A_4-R^7$,

A_1 is methylene,

A_3 is phenylmethylmethylene, and

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, trifluoromethyl, heptafluoromethyl, methoxy, isopropyloxy, pyrrolidine, dihydrofuran, oxazoline, 4,4-dimethyloxazoline, thiazoline, 5,5-dimethylthiazioline, piperidine, piperazine, morpholine, oxazole, thiazole and benzothiazole.

Claim 16. (new) The compound or salt thereof as claimed in claim 15, wherein R^7 is selected from the group consisting of trifluoromethyl, isopropyloxy, oxazoline, thiazoline, 4,4-dimethyloxazoline, 5,5-dimethylthiazoline and benzothiazole.